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The Evening Star.

No. 14,616.

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1900-FOURTEEN PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

"OPEN DOOR" DEFINED

Scope of This Country's Diplomatic Achievement.

DISCRIMINATION TO BE PREVENTED

Preserving China's Integrity and Freedom of Trade.

PLEDGES OF THE POWERS

An international concert of the most comprehensive character for mainthining freem of trade in China will be disclosed when all the facts regarding recent diplo ndence are communicated by President McKinley to Congress. The an been received from all the nowers is slight inally be given a definite written form.

of China, but it has bound each power to within its sphere of influence the existing rights of all the others, so that transgression by any one power will be a ciolation of pledges to all the powers and not simply of those given to the single one whose citizens or public interests may be directly affected. The appearance of the United States in the field of eastern diplomacy has been marked, therefore, by one

Success of American Diplomacy.

shall be put in definite written sired, but it is believed at the State Decartment that they will soon be forthcom-

The negotiations on the subject have bee servied on through correspondence with breign courts by the American representatives there rather than by the State Deartment with foreign ministers and amassadors at Washington. This is in acrdance with the regular diplomatic usage that new propositions shall be submitted directly to the governments involved rather than to their representatives abroad. The response of Germany was the first

to be reported to Washington, not Engand, as has been stated, and was the basis of the announcement that the German imperial government was much more friendly to the open door and to the interests of the liberal powers than had been believed. The response of France, however, was of a character to dispel any doubt of the earnes of her wish for freedom of trade in the Chinese empire. France intimated that she not only favored the open door in all parts of China still under Chinese sovereignty, but that she was opposed to the and that she was ready to maintain free dem of trade relations in the provinces over which she is about acquiring influence

The response of Great Britain was somewhat delayed, but was sufficiently clear. Ambassador Choate was advised by the under secretary for foreign affairs that Great Britain would co-operate with the United States in every measure looking toward freedom of commercial intercourse

Pledges Given Conditionally.

Each power imposed the condition that any pledges made should be made also by the other powers, in order to make the agreement binding. This request was so reasonable that Secretary Hay early adopted the policy of communicating to each of the powers interested the general character of the assurances received from the

In the case of Russia there has been con sultation and correspondence, in which the Russian imperial government has steadily assumed a tone of the greatest courtesy and consideration for the wishes of the United States. The Russian government was in many respects the most keenly in-terested in the settlement of the matter, and for this reason asked certain explanations, which were not asked in such detail by the other powers.

Austria-Hungary and Italy intimated a willingness to join in the proposed concert, and letters on the subject were accordingly addressed to them by the State Depart-

Japan, perhaps most keenly interested in the question after Russia, was addressed by mail, and some misunderstanding occurred in regard to the notification to Mr Buck, the United States minister at Tokio. The matter has recently been adjusted and Secretary Hay has been advised that Japan will cordially join in the concert of the

Assurances That Were Asked. The question was naturally raised early the correspondence, just what assurances the United States desired. This has been fully set forth, and the details will be care fully considered when the interchange of formal notes takes place. The United States has, in the first instance, asked for no assurances regarding any territory which had been formally annexed and incorporated into the territory of any of the powers The pledges given are to be limited to all leased by China to any other power, to all spheres of influence and to all territory still governed exclusively by Chinese officials. It is asked that within these teritorial limits all the rights which the United States now enjoy by treaty shall remain unimpaired. A general pledge of this character will not be accepted as

The American notes on the subject have set forth in detail what privileges the United States expected for its merchants and other citizens in leased territory and spheres of influence. It has been stipulated that there should be no discriminating rates on railways built and financed under formulating to a dispatch received by the quartermaster general, the transport Mcquartermaster general, the transport Mcpherson arrived at San Juan, Puerto Rico, this morning.

ign authority, that there should be no disriminating tonnage dues, that Americans nay be free to make contracts with the seal authorities and with Chinese merhants as freely as the citizens of other ountries, that the exploitation of mines should be upon the same terms for all, and hat contracts for the construction of public works and the use of public works at ready constructed should be open to Amer cans with as much freedom as to the citizens or subjects of any of the contracting

parties.

Local Chinese Tariffs.

One of the most important of these stipulations relates to liken taxes, or the Chinese local barrier charges. It has been feared in some quarters that Russia or Germany, by manipulation of these local taxes and by the use of improper influence with Chinese officials, might create effective discriminations against Americans while protesting publicly that the open door was maintained because no discriminating customs duties were levied at ports of entry Every precaution against evasion of this ort is being taken by Secretary Hay and by Mr. Rockhill, chief of the bureau of American republics, who has been one of the chief promoters of this great step in modern diplomacy.

Does Not Apply to Appexed Terrifory. It has been noted that the proposed international concert does not apply to territory actually owned or annexed. The United old not properly ask for an international agreement to control the domestic ariff policy of Russia, France or any other cuntry. This careful distinction, however, not hostile to the purposes of the agree ment. On the contrary, it draws so sharp by any of the powers and the present conlition of leases and spheres of influence that it will involve a very grave step for Russia or any other power to cross the line

Chinese Integrity Guaranteed.

The agreement in its careful distinction in this respect constitutes indirectly a sort of guarantee of the integrity of the Chinese empire. The United States might not alone go to war because freedom of trade on leased soil was transformed into exclusion by annexation, but the feeling on the part of any single power that all the others are interested in the maintenance of this freedom and that they would demand explanations if annexation were attempted would make any step toward the further spollation of China a matter of serious military and diplomatic preparation instead of the intrigue and secrecy which have prevailed in securing leases, concessions and spheres of influence. The only way in which this lifficulty could be turned by a power greedy for new land would be to continue freedom of trade until after annexation were completed. Even this course would involve rious dangers, and the distinction drawn between leased territory and that actually owned and annexed is likely to contribute much more to the integrity of the Chinese empire than if a general pledge were asked that discriminating tariffs and other charges should not be levied on any part of the present soil of China. One of the reults of the international concert is likely to be a feeling of lively gratitude toward the United States for having by a most skillful flank movement secured hostages from all the world that China shall not be dismembered in the future without the risk of antagonizing all the great powers.

Pledges Freely Granted by Russia.

If the Russian government has felt any reluctance to give the pledges asked by the United States, there have not been visible signs of such reluctance made manifest to the State Department. It is thought probable, however, that Russia would have proceeded with a high hand in northern China if the United States had not suddenly projected itself into the field of world diplomacy. The present embarrassments of Great Britis in South Africa might easily have forded the pretext for Russi sions in Manchuria and intrigues at the court of Pekin if the fact were not realized that beside Great Britain stood the powerful young empire of the west in the demand that freedom of trade should be respected on Chinese soil. The Japanese government is especially interested in this phase of the uestion, because of the menace to Ianan se interests which would be involved in Russian aggressions in northern China and in Corea. It is an open secret in diplomatic circles that if the time comes when the mailed hand of Russia is laid upon Corea, Japan will fight rather than se herself surrounded. The fear seems to prevail in the little island empire that Rugreed for conquest would not stop with the mainland, but would reach across the China sea and endeavor to make a dependency of the country of the Yankees of the The present concert of the powers, backed by the combined force of England, Germany and the United States, puts off into the distant future the interference of Russla in Corea by force of arms, and promises to establish in eastern waters "a Ro man peace" as secure as that which reigned over the Mediterranean under the empire of the Caesars.

NOT READY FOR THE HOUSE. No Business Yet in Shape for Con-

Speaker Henderson said today that no exact program of business in the House

of Representatives on the reassembling to morrow and during the balance of the week had been made up, and the view prevailed with the Speaker and his associates on the rules committee that there would be adfournments until appropriation bills and the measures before other committees were ready for action by the House. The urgent deficiency appropriation bill is yet to passed on by a subcommittee and the full ommittee, and the meeting for organization will not occur until Thursday. The outlook, therefore, is for little business before the House during the remainder o

There is some prospect of a sharp con troversy over the consideration of resolutions of inquiry relative to the Treasury Department. During the recess several have prepared resolu tions of this character, intending to clain immediate consideration for them as "privi-leged." It is said, however, by those wh are authorities on House procedure, this "privilege" would not permit the sideration of resolutions that the resolutions, if introduced, would be referred to a committee for one week, after which they could be called up for immediate consideration.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

The battle ship Texas, which sailed Sat urday from Hampton Reads, has arrived at New York. The Adams arrived at San Francisco December 31 and the Eagle on he same day at Nuevitas. The cruiser Chicago, Admiral Schley's flagship, arrived at Montevideo yesterday. The Machias has arrived at San Domingo, and the Lancaster at San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Yankton left Port Antonio yesterday

FIRE IN A TENEMENT THE BIG CANAL OPEN NOT

Injured in New York.

BLAZE STARTED IN CHRISTMAS TREE LAST EARTH REMOVED TODAY NOTHING BEYOND STREET RIOTS LIKELY

Over Fifty People Were Asleep in Interesting Event at Chicago Witthe Building.

MANY NARROW ESCAPES

NEW YORK, January 2.-A baby's life was lost and eleven persons were injured in a fire which destroyed a five-story tenement in 1st avenue shortly after 1 o'clock this morning. Three of the injured may die. The dead child is Loretta Leonard, six months old, daughter of Edward Leonard. The following persons were injured:

Edward Leonard, hand severely lacerated while sliding down a rope from fifth floor to the street.

Mrs. Margaret Leonard, his wife, bruises and shock. Nancy Leonard, fourteen years old, lacer-

ation of hands, caused by sliding down rope to street. Thomas Leonard, twelve years old, un-conscious from inhalation of smoke. William Leonard, ten years old, unconscious from inhaling smoke and flames;

ondition critical.

Joseph Leonard, nine years old, uncon-Joseph Leonard, nine years old, unconscious from inhaling smoke and flames.
Pauline Tischman and Phillip Carroll, jumped from second-story window and missed life net; severe contusions of body. Mrs. Kate Lane, face and hands burned. James Kelleber, hands and face slightly burned while rescuing a little girl.
Ruppert Glowe, hands and face burned while attempting to rescue tenants.

Started From a Christmas Tree. The fire, which was one of the fiercest

that the firemen have had to fight in a tenement house for some time, is believed to have started from a Christmas tree on the first floor. Candles on the tree had been lighted about midnight, and it is sup-posed that some of these candles were over-looked and remained lighted after they were thought to have been extinguished, and set the tree afte. There were over fifty people sleeping in the house when the

fifty people sleeping in the house when the fire started.

The flames were pouring into the hallway from the room in which the fire started when it was discovered. When the alarm was spread through the building the frightened people attempted to get down the stairs, but were driven back by the smoke. James Kelleher clasped his hands over his mouth and succeeded in getting up the stairs to render assistance. Ruppert Glowe, who made an attempt to go to the rescue of the tenants, was driven back to the street by flames, severely burned. On the third floor Kelleher found Tillie Powers, five years old. The girl had made her way down one flight of stairs and then fallen from exhaustion. Kelleher took her in his arms, and placing his hands over her eyes and mouth, to prevent her from inhaling flames or being injured thereby, leaped down the stairway and ran through the flaming hallway to the street. His precaution saved the child from injury, his own hands receiving the burns she would otherwise have suffered.

Scenes of Terror and Excitement.

Scenes of Terror and Excitement. Meantime scenes of terror and excitement were being enacted on every floor of the burning tenement. Instead of running to the rear of the building, where the fire es-cape was, the inmates of the house rushed to the front windows and threw them open This gave impetus to the flames, which were shooting up the air shaft and were showing twenty feet above the roof, before any firemen had arrived. Mrs. Pauline chman, an aged woman, who lived on the second floor, jumped for the net which the firemen spread, but missed it. She struck the flagging, her right ankle being sprained and her body severely bruised. She had scarcely struck the walk before Fillin Carroll at a window or the carrol. Carroll, at a window on the same leaped out. He, too, missed the net. his ankles were sprained and he was

adly bruised. Meanwhile the firemen had raised ladders to the windows on the fifth floor, where Edward Leonard lived with his wife and six children. The firemen found Leonard struggling with his wife to prevent her jumping with her six-months-old babe, Loretta, from the window. As the firemen ap-peared at the window, Mrs. Leonard drop-ped her baby to the floor.

Seized by the Firemen.

She was seized by the firemen and taken down the ladder in a fainting condition. Leonard slid down a rope, followed by his fourteen-year-old daughter Nancy and his eventeen-year-old son Edward. The hands of all three were cut to the bone by the friction. The two boys, William, eleven, and Joseph, nine, were found in bed unconscious, locked in each other's arms. They had inhaled smoke and were in a

aney had inhaled smoke and were in a critical condition.

The body of Loretta, the little Leonard baby, was found by the firemen after the fire had been controlled on the floor where its mother had dropped it. The child had been suffocated.

The loss from the flames is estimated at \$15,000.

COINAGE FOR THE YEAR.

Over \$111,000,000 of Gold and \$26,000,-000 of Silver Minted.

A statement issued by the director of the mint shows that the total coinage executed at the mints of the United States during the calendar year ended December 30, 1899, was \$139,243,191, as follows:

December last amounted to \$9,711.884, as follows: Gold, \$7,469,952; silver, \$1,886,605; minor coins, \$355,327.

The Transport Sedgwick. The quartermaster general has been in-

formed that the transport Sedgwick left Havana on the 31st instant for Nuevitas. where she will take aboard the 15th United States Infantry and proceed to New York The Sedgwick has aboard fifteen first-class and forty-nine second-class passengers bound for New York, and two first and fifty second-class passengers for Nuevitas also, \$1,100,000, specie of the North American Trust Company, and 16,000 pounds general cargo.

Commander W. W. Reisinger, command-ant of the navy yard, Pensacola, Fla., is in the city on leave of absence. He is stop-ping at 1209 13th street northwest.

Secretary Root in New York. Secretary Root was summoned to New York last night on important private business, and is expected to return to this city temorrow morning.

Warrant for Whallen's Arrest. FRANKFORT, Ky., January 2.-A war

ant has been issued for the arrest of John F. Whallen, charging him with attempting to bribe Senater Harroff. Whellen is in the city.

Baby Suffocated and Eleven Persons Lake Michigan and the Mississippi No Indication That Gen. Otis Looks Are Now Connected.

nessed by Few Persons.

CHICAGO, January 2.-At 9 o'clock this norning water was turned into the \$33,000,-000 drainage canal, and began to flow oward Lockport, where it will fall into the Desplaines river, and thence through the Illinois and Mississippi rivers to the Gulf of Mexico. What is termed by the canal engineers the collateral channel has been for some time completed from the Chicago river, in the southwestern part of the city, o within fifteen feet of the main channel. The fifteen-foot wall of earth, with two sluice gates behind it, has been all that has kept the Chicago river and Lake Michigan out of the canal. At 10 o'clock Monday night a steam dredge began to cut away this wall of earth, and a few minutes before 9 o'clock today the water in the collateral channel was against the sluice gates and only a few inches of timber remained to be removed before Chicago was to realize her dream of years and see the great canal in actual operation.

How the Work Was Done.

When the water began to back up against the sluice gates the timbers were knocked away and the first water from the Chicago river ran into the canal. The engineers of the sanitary district have cut a channel to carry 300,000 cubic feet of water a minute, but today the water was allowed to flow into the canal at the rate of only 50,000 cubic feet a minute. The effect of turning 300,000 cubic feet of water a minute into the empty canal would be like the bursting the empty canal would be like the bursting of a reservoir and would tear away every bridge over the canal and wreck the controlling works at Lockport. Therefore the water will be turned in gradually. Probably a week will clapse before the canal is full of water and is carrying away the sewage that now flows into the Chicago river. river.

Few Spectators Present.

An occasion that might have been made ne of the most memorable in the eventful history of Chicago was suffered to pass by unimproved, because the trustees of the sanitary district were intent only on their great aim—the opening of the canal. Aside from the trustees and the engineers of the board, there were less than a dozen specta-tors present.

THE LAWTON FUND

Subscriptions Now Received Here Amount to Nearly \$40,000.

This Does Not Include Those Made to Independent Agents in

Outside Cities.

Gen. Corbin, chairman of the Lawton relief committee, announces that the subscriptions to the Lawton fund received up to noon today amount to \$39,263.35, which to independent agents in various outside cities. Gen. Corbin also announces that the amount subscribed already exceeds the amount hoped for when the movement was originated, and is amply sufficient for the purposes of the fund, which are to raise the mortgage on the Lawton homestead at Redlands, Cal., and to provide for the education of the children. Owing to the high-ly gratifying success of the movement, it has been decided to close the subscription

ists on the 5th instant. Recent Subscriptions.

The following is an itemnized statemen of subscriptions since the last report: Previously acknowledged, \$32,774.35; subscription received by Evening Star, Kansas City, Mo., \$1,000; subscriptions forwarded through Alex. H. Revelle, December 28, \$1,195; the Chicago Times Herald, through \$1,195; the Chicago Times Herald, through Alex. H. Revelle, Chicago, \$100; through George E. Albee, New Haven, Conn., (sent December 30), \$68; Jay C. Morse, Cleveland, Ohio, \$50; R. M. Barton, fr., Nashville, Tenn., \$5: through George E. Albee, New Haven, Conn., \$93; G. W. Breckinridge, through Col. Chambers McKibben, San Antonio, \$10; Col. Chambers McKibben, San Antonio, Texas, \$10; John I. Thompson, Troy, N. Y., \$10; James W. Foley, Medera, S. D., \$5; Geo. W. E. Thorpe, Alken, S. C., \$2; through Alfred Corning Clarke, New York, \$1,000; Senator W. A. Clarke, \$150; Wm. F. Barbour, New York, \$100; Harriet D. Mackenzie, through Gen. M. Ludlow, Havana, \$50; H. A. Rodgers, New York, \$50; E. H. Tomilnson, Ansonia, Conn., \$50; Wilson Kistler, Lock Haven, Pa., \$25; John W. Lowe, Chicago, Ill., \$10; Walter S. Barker, captain and assistant quartermaster of volunteers, Clenfuegos, Cuba, \$10; Wm. Noble Peck, Washington, D. C., \$5; subscriptions of clitzens of St. Louis, \$1,740; Dr. W. Seward Webb, New York, \$250; Geo. Peabody, Washington, D. C., \$100; Henry Cabot Lodge, United States Senate, \$50; John Nicholas Brown, through Providence, R. I., Journal, \$50; Sam B. Sweet, Inddanapolis, Ind., \$25; Capt. Wm. Alex. H. Revelle, Chicago, \$100; through Senate, \$50; John Nicholas Brown, through Providence, R. L., Journal, \$50; Sam B. Sweet, Indianapolis, Ind., \$25; Capt. Wm. I. Nicholson, 7th Cavalry, \$10; James R. Hayden, Seattle, Wash., \$5; C. W. Roths, Harrison, N. J., \$1; Francis H. Legett & Co., New York, \$100; Austin, Nicholas & Co., New York, \$100; Col. J. M. Jacobs, Danville, Ky., \$20; total, \$39,263.35.

Two Large Contributions. Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural De artment walked into Adjutant General Corbin's office at the War Department this norning and handed him \$100 in gold for the Lawton fund, remarking that it wa "a farmer's contribution to a soldier's Another contribution to the fund received by General Corbin today was a check for 1,000 from Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan of New fork.

Army Orders.

Second Lieutenant W. E. Bennett, jr., reently appointed, has been assigned to the 13th United States Infantry, and ordered to join his regiment. Col. Richard Comba, 5th United State Col. Richard Comba, oth United States Infantry, has been ordered from New York city to Fort Sheridan, Ill., for duty.

Acting Assistant Surgeon A. D. McLean, U. S. A., has been relieved from further duty in the department of the lakes and ordered from Fort Wayne, Mich., to San Francisco, Cal., for assignment to duty.

Passed Assistant Surgeon A. W. Dunbar ias been assigned to duty on the Monon-

APPREHENSIVE

for an Uprising.

Natives, It is Believed, Will Yield to Fair Treatment.

MEANS MUCH TO THAT CITY THE NASHVILLE AT MANILA

There has been nothing in the official reports to the War Department from Gen. Otis to indicate any apprehension on his part of an uprising of Tagais in Manila. With the considerable force of United States troops already in the town, with the formidable fleet of naval vessels lying with the town right under their guns, and with a large army along the line of the Manila-Dagupan railroad, which could be speedily concentrated in the town, an attempt at an uprising on the part of the natives would seem like madness, in the opinion of the officials here. It is, therefore, believed that the extent of the dis-orders contemplated would be limited to mere street rioting in some of the outlying suburbs, and perhaps covert attempts at assassination of American soldiers.

An officer who has only recently done An officer who has only recently done provost marshal duty at Manila is authority for the statement that the relations between the natives and the United States forces have vasly improved, and while he says that a close scrutiny must be kept upon the Tagals for some time, he is confident that the fair and just treatment which the American soldiers are according the natives will an experience. the natives will soon remove all cause for differences.

' The Nashville at Manila.

The gunboat Nashville arrived at Manila Saturday, making the fourth of the five vessels recently ordered to Manila at the suggestion of Admiral Dewey. The Nashville was the first of the fleet to get away, sailing from San Juan de Puerto Rico October 14. The Brooklyn, the Newark and the New Orleans, all starting at a later date, have arrived out, leaving only the little Marietta to complete the voyage. The Marietta to complete the voyage. The Marietta left Norfolk three days later than the sailing of the Nashville from San Juan, and is about that distance behind her. It was not to be expected that either of these vessels should make as good time on the long voyage as the Brooklyn and New Orleans, owing to their inferior size. Admiral Watson will now be in position to actively support General Otis in opening up the ports in the southern Phillippines, in accordance with instructions from the War Department. The smaller vessels which have been sent out to him will be particularly serviceable in doing duty as guardships in the smaller ports.

GEN. OTIS REPORTS CASIALTIES. the New Orleans, all starting at a later

GEN. OTIS REPORTS CASUALTIES. Deaths From Disease and Bullet in

the Philippines. General Otis reports the following deaths since last report:
Wounded by natives December 16, Geo.

A. Wagner, F, 14th Infantry; drowned accidentally at Bacoor, November 19, Patrick

Hart, F, 14th Infantry.
Rio Pasig, Manila, December 27, Wm.
Ott, corporal, D, 21st Infantry, acute dysentery; 23d, John H. Buckner, musician, E. 13th Infantry; 18th, George W. Magann, K. 22d Infantry; 8th, Troy Hamilton, I. Cavalry, chronic dysentery; 23d, Andrew Mc Kielland, H. 31st Infantry; 21st, Joseph H. Soites, K. 22d Infantry; 26th, James Shanahan, A; 28th, John A. Renan, M, 13th Infantry, chronic diarrhoea; 24th, William Crabb, E, 14th Infantry; 25th, John C. Cain, I, 21st Infantry; 23d, Michael Kane, Cain, I. 21st Infantry; 23d, Michael Kane, civilian, late I, 22d Infantry, typhold; 2sth Andrew L. Gilkin, M. 11th Cavalry; 29th, James Croffey, D, 6th Infantry; 30th, Geo. Pleets, hospital steward, pariola; 26th. Hume Dulin, L, 24th; William W. Adams, M, 34th Infantry, pneumonia; October 19, John I, Williams, K, 22d Infantry, malaria; December 20, Robert Culhane, H, 6th Infantry, malarial cachexia; 27th, Edward J. Kelly, F, 13th Infantry, acute alcoholism; 23d, Michael Aldwin, D, 13th Infantry; yunshot wound in action, 13th, Winthrop gunshot wound in action, 13th, Wint Richardson, corporal, H, 4th Cavalry.

Missouri Returns With Sick Soldiers Surgeon General Sternberg received a cable message this morning saying that the hospital ship Missouri left Manila on the 31st ultimo for San Francisco with 286 sick eldiers on board.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

It Will Resume the Taking of Testimony Next Thursday.

The industrial commission will resume the taking of testimony next Thursday morning. Mr. H. B. Frissel, the principal of Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute of Hampton, Va., will then appear and testify concerning educational and industrial questions in relation to the colored people of this country.

On January 6 Mr. Charles Claffin Allen of St. Louis, Mo., will appear and reply to the testimony of Mr. John R. Dos Passos of New York, the latter having shown advantages of large combinations of capital. Mr. Allen is a leading member of the National Bar Association, and is regarded as the highest authority in that body on the subject of trusts and trust legislation. He is the consulting attorney of St. Louis. He will speak on the theoretical and practical aspect of trusts.

aspect of trusts.

Three other witnesses have agreed to appear before the commission on the 9th, 10th pear before the commission on the 9th, 10th and 13th instants, respectively, to testify on agricultural matters, as follows: Mr. John Hamilton, secretary of agriculture of Pennsylvania; Mr. F. E. Dawley of Fayettville, N. Y., director of the New York State Agricultural Institute, and Mr. J. H. Hale of Glastonbury, Conn., the last-named to speak especially on southern agricultural conditions, on which he is regarded as an authority.

an authority.

The commission held a meeting today The commission held a meeting today and will meet again tomorrow to consider matters in relation to its work. Members of the commission in the city today are Senators Kyle and Daniel. Representatives Gardner, Livingston and Bell. and Messrs. A. L. Harris, Albert Clarke, Farquhar and Kennedy. Mr. Ratchford will be here tomorrow. Senator Mallory is still ill in New Orleans, where he went to secure the services of an expert. Ex-Senator Lee Mantel has been confined to his bed for two months in Butte, Mont., and he has not sufficiently recovered to be present at the January recovered to be present at the Januar

WASHINGTON MONUMENT IN PARIS. Selected by the City Council at Recent Meeting.

PARIS, January 2.-The city council has chosen the site for the equestrian statue of Washington. It is at the intersection of the Avenue d'Iena and the Avenue du Trocadero. It is a fine site, in the midst of the American quarter, with the Place du Trocadero, the Palais du Trocadero, the Arc de Trimophe and the Champs Elysee close by. The pedestal has also been approved by the council. The United States am bassador, Gen. Horace Porter, has had charge of the matter and has devoted much Acting Warrant Machinist Theodore Meytime to it. He found that the French peo-

ple were greatly pleased with the idea of the statue, which is the result of the efforts of patriotic American women, who raised the necessary funds by subscription.

It is desired to unveil the statue July 3 next, the anniversary of Washington's acceptance of his commission as general, which act the statue represents. Daniel C. French is the sculptor of the statue and pedestal.

Charles Page Bryan, the United States minister to Brazil, is here. Gen. Porter has given a dinner in his honor. He leaves for his post in a day or so.

FIRE AT RICHMOND, VA.

Car Record Office of C. and O. R. R. Destroyed.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star. RICHMOND, Va., January 2.-At 6 o'clock this morning fire broke out in the car rec-ord office of the general offices of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway, and a large part of the big building was destroyed. Owing to the cold weather the firemen suffered intensely. Three of them collapsed from the cold and had to be brought down from the top of the building on ladders. The origin of the fire was a defective flue.

All the records in the car service office were destroyed and many papers and documents, drawings and estimates of the con pany, valued at about \$50,000, were de-

M. H. Garnett's furnishing store in the same building was largely ruined by water. His loss will be about \$5,000. The damage His loss will be about \$5,000. The damage to the building will amount to about \$20,000. The building is 'nsured for \$65,000. Within an hour after the fire broke out the entire front of the building and the street around it were covered with ice. The fire will cause great inconvenience to the company, coming, as it did, the first of the year. The building belonged to the J. W. Allison estate and was recently purchased for \$50,000.

EVIDENCE OF A HORRIBLE CRIME. Jutilated Remains of Mrs. Jones Found Scar Rosser, Ala.

CHICAGO, January 2.-A special to the Chronicle from Birmingham, Ala., says: The mutilated remains of Mrs. Jennie Jones were found in a ditch near Rosser, Choctaw county. The arms and legs had been hewn from the trunk with an ax and the head had been severel with a knife, a bruise on the head indicating that death had been inflicted with an ax. All portions of the body had been partially burned, and it was with difficulty that the identity of the dead woman was established.

The smoldering ashes of a spent fire in a near-by thicket showed that after the woman had been murdered her body had been cut to pleces and heaped upon a pile of brushwood, which was then lighted, but the fire failed to accomplish its work and the remains were then cast into the ditch and covered with leaves.

ST. LOUIS' LIGHTS TURNED OUT. Part of the City Plunged in Darkness Last Night.

ST. LOUIS, January 2.—The incandescent amps in use by the city were turned off at pidnight last night, owing to the expira tion of the contract with the Missourl-Edion Electric Company. For the first time in the history of St. Louis the public institutions, the parks and the alleys within the district between Washington avenue and Keokuk street were dark, except for a few tallow candles, gas lights and coal oil lamps. No arrangement has been made for a continuance of the service. The street corners are still lighted by are lights, these being furnished by the Missouri-Edison Company under another contract.

THE WISCONSIN NEARLY READY.

Battle Ship's Trial Trip Will Take Place in Two Weeks. SAN FRANCISCO, January 2.-Work has o far advanced on the United States battle ship Wisconsin that she will make her trial trip within the next two weeks. Her main battery of four thirteen-inch guns will be the heaviest ever mounted on an American

Department. DIAZ THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE.

dent's Popularity. CITY OF MEXICO, January 2 -- A plebis ite of the Citizens' Republic was held vesterday regarding candidates for the presidency in the term to begin next December, and a heavy vote was cast in this icinity. An immense preponderance of the votes favored the candidacy of President Diaz. There was no disorder at any of the hundreds of polling places, and good feeling

prevailed. The American colony's charity ball, postponed from Thanksgiving day, took place last night in this city and was a notable affair. Among the invited guests were President Diaz and his wife. The proceeds of the ball go to the American Hospital.

MORE FOR GOOD ROADS.

L. A. W. Will Ask Congress to Ap-

propriate \$5,000,000.

PITTSBURG, Pa., January 2.—The most mportant step which the League of American Wheelmen has yet taken in its work for good roads is about to be inaugurated. President Keenan of the L. A. W. has arranged for the early presentation in Congress of a bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the construction of improved highways throughout the United States.

Representative Graham of the twenty-Representative Graham of the twenty-third congressional district will father the measure which every L. A. W. member and official throughout the United States will be asked to give his energetic support, Presi-dent Keenan : tates that he feels assured of the hearty co-operation of the farmers all over the country in securing the passage of a measure co manifestly in their interest of a measure co manifestly in their interest,

CAUCUS WILL NAME BLACKBURN. He Has All but Two Democrats in Kentucky Legislature

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 2.-Ex-Sentor Joseph Clay Styles Blackburn will b formally named today by the democratic joint caucus of the legislature to succeed Senator Lindsay. The indications early today were that not more than two demo cratic members would refuse to go into the aucus, Senator Gillespie, who staved last night, announced this morning that he would participate in the B ackburn caucus.

Attaches Lunch With William. BERLIN, January 2.-The foreign mili

tary attaches lunched with the emperor yesterday. The emperor and the crown prince, at ncon, received the Japanese minister, who presented the Order of the Chrysanthemum

Death of Jacob C. Rogers. BOSTON, January 2.-Jacob C. Rogers,

prominent banker and for years the representative of J. P. Morgan & Co. of New York, died suddenly at his home here to-day. Mr. Rogers was seventy-two years of

to the crown prince.

Roland Reed Slightly Better NEW YORK, January 2.—Roland Reed, the actor, passed a comfortable night. He seemed to rest better than before. The change was not very great, but was couraging.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Secretary Hay Reports to His Associates in the Cabinet.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH FOREIGN POWERS

Trade With China to Be Left Without Restraint.

ADMIRAL WALKER'S CALL

Secretary Hay at today's cabinet sesor reported the result of the negotiations with the European powers in the matter of keeping an open door for commercial purposes in China. He reported that the nsent of all the important European countries had been obtained except that of Italy, and it is expected that Italy will oon agree to the proposition. England, France, Russia and Germany, the countries most deeply interested, have just notified the representatives of this country abroad that they will aid in keeping an open door at all times. This is all the United States has desired and is as far as the negotiaions will go.

It is said that Secretary Hay at first entered upon the negotiations with the idea of merely feeling the pulses of the Eurepean countries and to have them declare their policies as to China. It is doubtful if the President and Secretary Hay had made up their minds to any definite step if the answers of the European states had been different.

Saved From Seizing Territory.

A cabinet officer says that one thing is ertain, and that is that the United States has been saved the necessity of seizing Chinese territory that our commercial relations with that country might not suffer. President McKinley, with his eye to commercial development, he says, would not have permitted Europe to divide China and do as it saw it without assurance that the open door would be permanently maintain-ed. No step in the way of a seizure of ter-ritory is your research. ed. No step in the way of a seizure of territory is now necessary. Each of the countries has deciared that her policy is to maintain free trade relations and to place no restrictions anywhere. The United States is too big and powerful a country to have faith broken with her without the penalty being paid. The precedent of seizing foreign territory was one which the President would have been loath to set, yet he might have been compelled to take that step had not the present negotiations rendered it out of the question. When the negotiations began the President did not have any set purpose in view, and knew only that in a scheral way the trade relations of the United States in the far east must be unmelested.

The associates of Secretary Hay congrat-ulated him on the successful result of the regotiations.

The cabinet meeting, the first of the new

year, was the shortest held in six months. The members explained this by saying that Secretary Root was absent. Matters in his department usually take up a great deal of the time of the President and cabinet.

Admiral Walker Calls.

Admiral Walker, the head of the isthmian canal commission, had a short talk with President McKinley this morning. Admiral Walker said later that the members of the commission would leave New York Satur-day for Central America to begin their in-vestigations of the canal routes. They will go on the steamer Aleane and will stop first at Greytown.

PROPOSED ARMY REORGANIZATION.

Chairman Hull Says Some Measure Will Probably Be Presented. Chairman Hull of the House committee on military affairs says some measure of a xceed the speed required by the Navy general character relating to the organization of the army probably will be presented at the present session of Congress. Mr Hull had a number of conferences with War Department officials prior to the hol-Plebiscite in Mexico Shows the Presiidays with a view to reaching an understanding on what was needed in the way of military legislation, and it is understood

that bills are being matured for submission later. The chairman says the present law will do as a temporary measure, but as it specifically provides that the present organization of the army shall cease on July 1, 1891, it is imperative that this Congress do something in the way of army organization either this session or next. He holds the view, however, that conditions are too unsettled in the Philippines and elsewhere to say definitely as to the number of troops in a permanent organization, although he is confident that there will never be a reduction of the regular army back to 28,000.

There are several general features of army organization which Mr. Hull believes will be embodied in such legislation as is enacted. These include the three battallon formation, which was a marked departure inaugurated by the last act and has given general satisfaction.

Another feature is that allowing the army to "expand from within" by increasing the The chairman says the present law will

numerical strength of the companies, stead of creating new regiments. Mr. Hull says this feature has proved most bene-ficial, as it gives an elastic organization, says this feature has proved most bene ficial, as it gives an elastic organization capable of ready expansion in time of need without additional officers and an entire new organization.

without additional officers and an entire new organization.

The staff organization of the army is also likely to receive attention. Secretary Root favors a change in the present system, with a view to having a "detail staff"—that is, staff bureaus recruited largely from the line of the army. This would be a marked departure, as the present staff bureaus are almost entirely permanent. Among military experts there is said to be considerable difference of opinion on this point, as the German, French and other continental military systems have permanent staff organizations. Great Britain is the only great power having a detail staff. new organization.

NATIONAL BANK CIRCULATION. An Increase for the Year of Over \$2,-000,000 Indicated.

The monthly circulation statement issued by the controller of the currency shows that at the close of business December 30, 1899, the total circulation of national bank notes was \$246,195,523, an Increase for the year of \$2,460,418 and an increase for the month of \$2,435,275. The circulation based on United States bonds amounted to \$200,-759.985, a decrease for the year of \$4,256,002 and an increase for the month of \$508,083. The circulation secured by lawful money was \$56,435,538, an increase for the year of \$6,716,420 and an increase for the month of \$1,837,192.

The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulating notes was \$234,484,570, and to secure public deposits \$75,007,880. 759.985, a decrease for the year of \$4,256,-

Major Rodgers to Leave Paris.

Maj. Alexander Rodgers of the 6th Cavalry has, at his own request, been relieved from duty as military attache at the United States embassy at Paris, France, and or-

to join his regiment in this country. Maj. Rodgers was formerly captain in the and). Roagers was formerly captain in the 4th Cavalry, but in September last was promoted to be major of the 6th Cavalry, and he was anxious to join his regiment. The vacancy caused by his detachment from the Paris embassy, it is said at the War Department, will not be filled for some time to come.

through Printer's Ink .- P. T. Barnum.

The Road to Fortune is

THE ROAD TO FORTUNE.